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complaints levelled by reformers at judicial review. When, however, one turns to the more concrete matter of the fitness of particular judges for the great responsibility vested in them by the constitution, there is, of course, often room for discussion."

W. C. J.

THE MECHANICS OF LAW MAKING. By Courtenay Ilbert. Columbia University Press, 30-32 W. 27th St., New York. 1914. pp. viii, 209. \$1.50.

This little book is a reprint of the Carpentier Lectures at Columbia University in 1913, with some prunings and some additions. The distinguished author, whose vast experience as parliamentary draftsman and clerk of the House of Commons, qualifies him better to speak upon this subject than perhaps any English speaking person, here discourses entertainingly, though learnedly, upon the theme which he has covered in a more technical way in his Legislative Methods and Forms. Particularly keen and provocative of thought are the author's remarks upon the causes of English indifference to codification, and upon the growing importance of administrative legislation.

Mr. Justice Holmes says: "When a man has a working knowledge of his business, he can spend his leisure better than in reading all the reported cases he has time for. They are apt to be only the small change of legal thought. It is worth while, even with the most mundane ideals, to get as big a grasp of one's subject as one can." There are books which deal with the larger aspects of the law and which are as interesting and attractive as most novels. Sir Courtenay Ilbert's modest contribution is one of those books.

O. K. M.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE GOVERNMENT IN CALIFORNIA. By Cardinal Goodwin. The Macmillan Co., 64-66 Fifth Ave., New York. 1914. pp. xiv. 359. \$2.00.

This is a valuable work, a desired contribution to the study of California history. The core of the book, the main thesis, is thoroughly sound and reliable. It is a pity, therefore, that the introductory chapters, and some portions of the sequel, have no greater authenticity than their sources—the pity, of course, being that the author in these portions drew from second-hand sources. These portions, which we are in a measure disparaging, rely too largely upon Bancroft and Royce. Bancroft's work is so permeated with personal prejudice, antipathy, and resentment, as well as lacking in historical sense and perspective, as to be useless, if not misleading, as a guide and authority. It is a pity, then, that any one who assumes to undertake scholarly research work should place any dependence upon Bancroft's conclusions. And Royce, in a considerable portion of his "California" followed the lead of Bancroft, and is of course no more reliable than his

guide, although he clothed his story with a charm of language and imagination wholly his own. And when Royce treated of the Land Question in California, he was beyond his depth in unknown waters. Consequently the "Interregnum" of California history, the political and social characteristics of the period from the Conquest to the admission of the State into the Union, remains still to be written with discerning and judicious mind.

But the Constitutional Convention and the Organization of the State Government, covering pages 91 to 307 in the book under review, may be considered to have received definitive discussion. The book may be said to lack atmosphere, but it has such manifest merits of painstaking investigation and reliable judgment in this portion where the author has gone to the sources himself and has relied on no second-hand impressions that we welcome it with cordial praise. This central portion of the book, treating of the formation of the constitution, analyzes and classifies the work of the convention in seven chapters, dealing respectively with the Departments of Government, the Free Negro Question, the Eastern Boundary, Corporations and Banks, Education and Taxation, Completion of the Convention's Work, and Sources of the Constition. All of these questions are treated thoroughly and adequately. And the following chapters on Organization of the First Legislature, and on the question whether the Civil or Common Law should prevail in California are well handled.

The author has broken down at least one long-standing impression, namely, that a group of southern politicians dominated the Convention of 1849. He shows convincingly that the proposition to put the eastern boundary at the farthest point recognized by the treaty with Mexico, and including the Mormon settlement at Salt Lake, was not supported by southern men any more than by northern, and so was not prompted on grounds of slave extension. Likewise he shows that the exclusion of the free negro was a question in which the men from the northern states were interested as much as the men from the South. The settlement of differences of opinion in the boundary question was prompted by a desire to obtain immediate admission to statehood. question of free negroes and other disturbing problems were solved on the principle thus stated by the author: "In their home states party affiliations and local institutions were given first consideration; in their new environment a common feeling of the necessity of union took precedence over all other interests."

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Foreigners in Turkey, Their Juridical Status. By Philip Marshall Brown. Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey. 1914. pp. vii, 157. \$1.25.

In this small volume the author has presented a very readable sketch of the origin and content of the immunities enjoyed by foreigners in Turkey as they existed before the present war began